# QUEEN

# GREATEST HITS II

1 A Kind Of Magic
2 Under Pressure
3 Radio Ga Ga
4 I Want It All
5 I Want To Break Free
6 Innuendo
7 It's A Hard Life
8 Breakthru
9 Who Wants To Live Forever
10 Headlong
11 The Miracle
12 I'm Going Slightly Mad
13 The Invisible Man
14 Hammer To Fall
15 Friends Will Be Friends
16 The Show Must Go On
17 One Vision

**This 2011 version of one of the top ten best-selling albums in Britain of all time has been meticulously re-created using the finest modern analogue and digital technology, from the original first-generation master mixes.**

**Mastered by Bob Ludwig, Gateway Mastering Studios, Portland, ME**
**Audio Supervised by Justin Shirley-Smith and Kris Fredriksson. Special thanks: Joshua J Macrae, all at British Grove Studios**
**Tracks originally edited by David Richards for CD**

**Published by Queen Music Ltd. / EMI Music Publishing Ltd.**
**Except 'Under Pressure' published by Queen Music Ltd. / EMI Music Publishing Ltd. / Tintoretto Music administered by RZO Music Ltd.**

A KIND OF MAGIC

Written by Roger Taylor, and taken from the album of the same name, it was released in the UK on March 17th 1986 and was produced by Queen and David Richards. The song originally featured in the closing credits of *Highlander* but was later remixed as a commercial single and went on to become a major hit throughout the World, reaching No. 3 in Britain and dominating the charts at No. 1 in no less than 35 countries.

UNDER PRESSURE

By Queen and David Bowie, released in the UK on October 26th 1981 and features on the album *Hot Space*. Produced by Queen and David Bowie, the song was the result of an impromptu recording session, at Mountain Studios in Montreux and marked the band's first collaboration with another recording artist. It was a huge success throughout Europe, and gave Queen their second UK No. 1 single; it was also No. 1 in Argentina. It was included on some countries' *Greatest Hits* album and in 1990 the riff was sampled as a basis for Vanilla Ice's No. 1 single *Ice Ice Baby* and, yes, Jedward's No. 1 single in 2009.

RADIO GA GA

Written by Roger Taylor for *The Works*, their first album to be recorded in Los Angeles. Released in the UK on January 23rd 1984, produced by Queen and Mack. The track was inspired by MTV, and itself inspired a video based on Fritz Lang's famous silent movie *Metropolis*. The track peaked at No. 2 in the UK chart, and reached No. 1 in 19 other countries. Taylor wrote the song when his three year old son Felix, was listening to some bad record on the radio and uttered the words, 'Radio Ca Ca.' In fact, listen closely and you will hear that the lyric never actually changed!

I WANT IT ALL

Written by Queen and taken from the album *The Miracle*. Released in the UK on May 2nd 1989 and produced by Queen and David Richards. After a two-year hiatus from the European charts, Queen returned with a classic rock track and a performance video. The single was a huge hit all over Europe, peaking at No. 3 in the UK but reaching No. 1 in many other European territories, and has been used as a rallying call by various freedom groups.

I WANT TO BREAK FREE

Written by John Deacon, produced by Queen and Mack and released in the UK on April 2nd 1984. This second single from *The Works* gave the band their longest reign of the decade in the UK charts. After climbing to No. 3 it remained in the chart for 15 consecutive weeks and proceeded to become one of the band's most successful European hits. The video featured the members of the band in drag, in a parody of a British TV soap opera, and became one of their most popular in Europe, although it was banned in parts of America. The song has become an anthem in many oppressed areas of the world.

INNUENDO

Written by Queen, taken from the album of the same name. Released in the UK on January 14th 1991 and produced by Queen and David Richards. Queen's first release of the Nineties, this six and a half minute long opus crashed straight into the British charts at No. 1, as did the album. It also provided them with a huge hit all over Europe. The epic track takes in several diverse musical styles an intrinsic Queen trademark – and includes guest musician Steve Howe on 'wandering minstrel guitar'. The video, produced by Hibbert Ralph and Doro Productions won several prestigious awards, including a Gold Camera award from the American Film and Video Festival.

*A Kind Of Magic, 1986*

*Radio Ga Ga, 1984*

*I Want It All, 1989*

*I Want To Break Free, 1984*

IT'S A HARD LIFE

Written by Freddie Mercury for *The Works* album, it was released in the UK on July 16th 1984. Produced by Queen and Mack. The song opens with a line from *I Pagliacci* opera *Vesti La Gibba* and features all the famous Queen trademarks. It peaked at No. 6 in the British chart and was the band's first release to appear as a 12" picture disc. The video, based on elaborate irony, features the band and others in an atmosphere of opulence, and Freddie in what became affectionately known as the 'giant prawn' outfit!

BREAKTHRU

Written by Queen and taken from the album *The Miracle*. Released in the UK on June 19th 1989, it was produced by Queen and David Richards. The video for the song was filmed on a private railway in the Nene Valley in Cambridgeshire and featured a steam train dubbed *The Miracle Express*. The single was No. 7 in the UK charts, and gave the band a top ten hit throughout Europe.

WHO WANTS TO LIVE FOREVER

Written by Brian May, from the *A Kind Of Magic* album, and released in the UK on September 15th 1986. Produced by Queen and David Richards with orchestral arrangements by Michael Kamen. This poignant ballad was composed by Brian on the way home after the band had first viewed the rough cut of the film *Highlander*, it became one of the central themes of the movie. The video for the single featured the full National Philharmonic Orchestra, forty choirboys and two thousand candles. It gave Queen yet another top thirty hit in Europe, climbing to 24 in the UK.

HEADLONG

Written by Queen, taken from the album *Innuendo* and released on May 13th 1991. Produced by Queen and David Richards. A characteristically fast paced Queen rocker, it was the first release in the USA for the band's new label Hollywood Records. The performance video to accompany the track was shot in the London studio where much of the album had been recorded. It climbed to 14 in the UK chart and was a big seller throughout the rest of Europe.

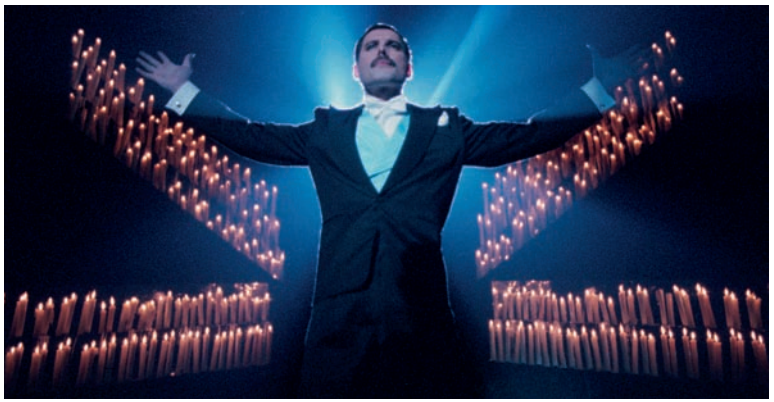
THE MIRACLE

Written by Queen and taken from the album of the same name. Released in the UK on November 27th 1989 and produced by Queen and David Richards. It was the first time that EMI had ever released five singles from a Queen album. The single peaked at 21 in the UK and made top forty in Europe. The video featured four young Queen 'lookalikes' who performed a perfectly executed mini Queen stage show to the track – leaving the 'real Queen' to make a mere cameo appearance during the finale.

I'M GOING SLIGHTLY MAD

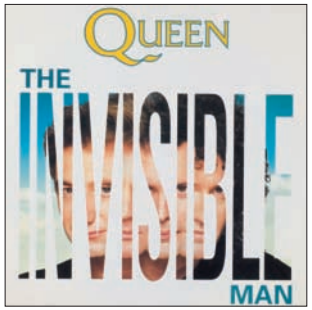
Written by Queen and taken from the *Innuendo* album. Released in the UK on March 4th 1991, it was produced by Queen and David Richards. A complete change of mood and pace for this second single from *Innuendo*, typical Freddie eccentricity with Queen tongues planted very firmly in cheeks. The monochrome video features the band interacting with live penguins and a gorilla. The song reached 22 in the UK chart and climbed into the Top Twenty all over Europe, whilst settling at No. 1 in Hong Kong.

*Rock In Rio, 1983*



*Who Wants To Live Forever, 1986*

*I'm Going Slightly Mad, 1991*




THE INVISIBLE MAN

Written by Queen and taken from the album *The Miracle*. Released in the UK on August 7th 1989, it was produced by Queen and David Richards. The video for this single was one of the band's more lighthearted, yet still innovative, films; the members of the band were duplicated on film via computerised motion control. The single reached No. 12 in the UK and made top twenty all over Europe.

HAMMER TO FALL

Written by Brian May, produced by Queen and Mack this track was released as a single in the UK on September 10th 1984. The fourth and final single from *The Works*, *Hammer To Fall* features Queen in their heaviest rock guise. Different sleeves were used to package the record, and the live picture sleeve is now a collectors item. The video was filmed in Brussels during the band's European tour, and the single gave the band a European wide top twenty hit, peaking at 13 in the UK. The track featured later in the film *Highlander*.

FRIENDS WILL BE FRIENDS

Written by Freddie Mercury and John Deacon, taken from the album *A Kind Of Magic* and released in the UK on June 9th 1986. Produced by Queen and Mack. This traditional Queen anthem was released to coincide with the Magic Tour in the summer of '86, and marked the band's 30th single release in the UK. Peaking at 14 in the UK, the single reached top forty in most European territories.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

Written by Queen, taken from the *Innuendo* album, released October 1991 as a forerunner to *Greatest Hits II*. Produced by Queen and David Richards. It signalled the band's fortieth British single release and was written and performed in the knowledge that Freddie's days were fast-running out. Although already almost too weak to stand at the time, Freddie achieved monumental power, range and passion in this epic vocal performance.

ONE VISION

Written by Queen and released on November 4th 1985, and eventually appearing on the *A Kind Of Magic* album. Produced by Queen and Mack, the song was recorded after the band's triumphant appearance at Live Aid and climbed into the top ten in most European countries, reaching No. 7 in the UK.

*The Invisible Man, 1989*

*The Works Tour, 1984*

*The Magic Tour, 1986*

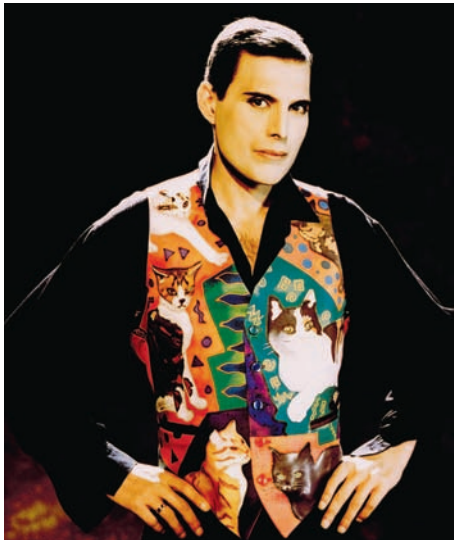
*Live Aid, 1985*

*The Magic Tour, 1986*

*John Deacon, 1991*

*Brian May, 1991*

*Roger Taylor, 1991*



*Freddie Mercury, 1991*

QUEEN ARE : JOHN DEACON, BRIAN MAY, ROGER TAYLOR AND FREDDIE MERCURY

**Management : Jim Beach**

**Sleeve design : Richard Gray  Sleeve notes : Jim Jenkins**
**Photography : Richard Gray, Simon Fowler, Denis O'Regan, Richard Young, Peter Hince and Neal Preston**

**www.queenonline.com**

**Queen International Fan Club : P.O. Box 141, West Horsley, Surrey, KT24 9AJ. UK**